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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Dwijen K. Banerjee § Group Art Unit: 1764
§
SERIAL NO.: 09/852,107 §
§ Examiner: Nadine Norton
§
FILED: May 9, 2001 §
§
FOR: Combined Thermal And Catalytic §
Treatment Of Heavy Petroleum In §
A Slurry Phase Counterflow §
Reactor §

Atty. Dkt. No.: COP 9259.0-00
Date: September 23, 2003

**AMENDMENT AND
RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED APRIL 23, 2003**

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicant acknowledges receipt of the Office Action dated April 23, 2003, and in reply submits the following amendments and remarks. The Examiner is requested to enter the following amendments and consider the accompanying remarks. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.

The format of this Amendment and Response is in accordance with the USPTO Notice dated January 31, 2003 entitled "Amendments in a Revised Format Now Permitted."